Amendments to the Claims:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

- 1. (Cancelled)
- 2. (Currently Amended) An ink jet ink composition comprising water, a humectant, and a hyperbranched polymeric dye comprising a hyperbranched polymer having a dye chromophore pendant on the polymer chain wherein said hyperbranched polymer having a dye chromophore pendant on the polymer chain has the formula:

HB-D_n

wherein:

HB is a <u>polyamide</u>, <u>polyether</u>, <u>vinylic polymer</u>, <u>polyimine</u>, <u>polysiloxane</u>, <u>or polyurethane</u> hyperbranched polymer core;

D is a dye moiety; and n is an integer of at least 2.

- 3. (Cancelled)
- 4. (Original) The composition of Claim 2 wherein said HB is prepared by a chain polymerization of a monomer of the formula $M^1-R^1-M^2_m$ wherein (i) R^1 is a linear or branched alkyl, carbonyl, or aromatic moiety; (ii), M^1 and M^2 are reactive groups that react independently of each other in which M^1 is a polymerization group and M^2 is a precursor of a moiety M^2 which initiates the polymerization of M^1 as a result of being activated; and (iii), m is an integer of at least 1.
- 5. (Original) The composition of Claim 2 wherein said HB is prepared by a condensation or addition polymerization of a monomer of the formula M³-R²-M⁴_p wherein (i) R² is a linear or branched alkyl or aromatic moiety; (ii), M³ and M⁴ are groups that undergo a condensation or addition reaction; and (iii), p is an integer of at least 2.

- 6. (Currently Amended) The composition of Claim 2 wherein said HB is prepared by a condensation or addition polymerization of a monomer of the formula R²-M⁵_q and R³-M⁶_t wherein (i) R² is a linear or branched alkyl or aromatic moiety as defined above and R³ is a linear or branched alkyl or aromatic moiety; (ii), M⁵ and M⁶ are groups that undergo a condensation or addition reaction; and (iii), q is an integer of at least 2 and t an integer of at least 3.
- 7. (Original) The composition of Claim 4 wherein M^1 is a non-substituted or substituted vinylic group, M^2 is X, -CH₂X or -CH(CH₃)X wherein X is Cl, Br, I, S-C(=S), YR⁴R⁵ or -O-NR⁴R⁵, Y=O or N, and R⁴ and R⁵ are each independently -(CH₂)_r (r = 1-12), -C₆H₅, -C(O)O, or C(O).
- 8. (Original) The composition of Claim 5 wherein M^3 and M^4 are each independently -COOH, -OH, -C(O)Cl, epoxy, anhydride, NH, or NH₂, and R^2 is -C₆H₃-, or -(CH₂)_s-C(R^6)- wherein R^6 is a linear or branched alkyl or aromatic group and s is an integer of 1-14.
- 9. (Original) The composition of Claim 6 wherein M^5 and M^6 are each independently -COOH, -OH, -C(O)Cl, epoxy, anhydride, NH or NH₂, and R^3 is -C₆H₄-, -C₆H₄-O-C₆H₄-, -C₆H₃, N(CH₂)₃-, -C₄H₈-, -C₆H₁₀-,

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10-18. (Cancelled)